

REMARKS

Claims 16-25, 27-30, and 32-34 are pending in the present application after cancellation of claims 31 and 35. The Examiner indicates in the Office Action that claims 16-25 and 27-30 are allowed, and that claims 31 and 35 are rejected. The Examiner further indicates in the Office Action that claims 32, 33 and 34 are objected to, but that claims 32 and 34 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Initially, Applicants note that claims 32 and 34 were previously rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, (see 6/26/03 Rule 116 Amendment), and the Examiner indicated in the 7/10/03 Advisory Action that the Rule 116 Amendment would be entered and that claims 32 and 34 are allowed. Accordingly, Applicants submit that no further amendments to claims 32 and 34 are needed, and claims 32 and 34 are allowable in their present condition.

Rejected claims 31 and 35 have been canceled in this Amendment. Furthermore, claim 33 has been rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, claim 33 is in allowable condition.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Prompt issuance of a notice of allowance of the present application is therefore requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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